Setting up of Sugar Factories in Meerut, U. P.

1044. SHRI SHANTI TYAGI: Will the Minister of FOOD AND CIVIL. SUPPLIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government have sanctioned the setting up of two sugar factories in Meerut district; and

(b) if so, what are the locations of these units and by when construction work would begin?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRI SARWAR HUSSAIN): (a) and (b) A letter of intent for setting up of a new sugar factory of 2500 TCD capacity at Malakpur, District Meerut has been issued on 7. 8. 1990 to M/s. Win Medicare Limited. It generally takes 3 to 4 years to establish a new sugar factory.

Dangers of use of pesticides

1045. SHRI B. K. HARIPRASAD: Will the Minister Of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the extent of dangers of pesticides to health as reported in 'the Hindustan Times' of the 3rd November, 1990;

(b) if so, whether any samples of food, water have been taken during the last 3 years for testing of pesticides if so, the details thereof, State-wise indicating results obtained and corrective action taken in this regard; and

(c) whether permssible safe limits would be laid down for all the 128 registered pesticides and if so, by when?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND COOPERATION IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE" (SHRI JAYANTHILAL VIRCHAND ■ BHAI SHAH): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The Industrial Toxicological Research Centre, Lucknow has carried' out a survey of Ganga 'water under-the scheme for Management of Ganga River Quality (Commissioned by the Ganga Project Directorate) during the period July, 1986 to June, 1989. This has revealed presence of 8 pesticides in Ganga water in varying quantities.

In so far as testing of samples of food to determine residues of pesti cides is concerned, this is done under the 'Prevention of Food Adu teration Act'. The informtion in respect of the samples of food taken during the last three j^ears 'for testing residues of pesticides is being collected by the Union Ministry of Health and Family Welfare which administers the Food Adulteration Act. This information when available, will be laid down on the Table of the Sabha.

(c) Prescription of permissible safe limits for pesticides in various food articles is a continuous process. These limits have already been prescribed for fifty pesticides in various articles of food. Selling of food articles with pesticides residues exceeding the prescribed safe limits under the Prevention of Food Adulteration Act | Rules is prohibited.

Issue of New Licences fo$_r$ Sugar Factories

1046. SHRI SHIV PRATAP MISH-RA: Will the Minister of FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES be pleased to state:

(a) what is the number of licences for sugar factories issued during the month of October, 1990 and upto 9th November, 1990;

(b) the number of licences issued during the period from 2nd Decern--ber, 1989 to 30th September, 1990;

(c) the reasons for which large number of licences were issued during the period mentioned in part (a) above; and

(d) whether Government propose to review the cases of all he licences-issued?

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THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRI SARWAR, HUSSAIN): (a) and (b) Only 7 (seven) letters of intent were issued for establishment of new sugar factories during the month October, 1990